World History 2011-2012 Ms. Hunt

**THE NINTH GRADE RESEARCH PAPER**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Topic: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**GRADE BREAKDOWN**

Research Process

[04/23] Topic Selection………………………………………………………………….. \_\_\_/5

[05/01] 15 Notecards on NoodleBib……………………………………………………. \_\_\_/10

[05/04] 30 Notecards on NoodleBib……………………………………………………. \_\_\_/10

[05/07] Source Card Check (Books, Websites, Databases)…………………………….. \_\_\_/15

[05/07] 45 Notecards on NoodleBib……………………………………………………. \_\_\_/10

[05/11] Preliminary Outline……………………………………………….……………. \_\_\_/10

[05/11] Thesis Statement……………………………………..…………………………. \_\_\_/15

Drafting Process

[05/18] Detailed Outline…………………………………………………………...……. \_\_\_/10

[05/25]Rough Draft………………………………………………...……………………. \_\_\_/15

**[06/04] FINAL PAPER**...………………………………...……………………. \_\_\_/200

\*\*\*Late submissions (at every stage in this process) will be penalized 10%\*\*\*

\*\*\*If you bring your rough draft to the writing center, you will earn **FIVE** extra points on your final draft\*\*\*

**History Research Paper Assignment**

You will be writing a 5-page research paper on a topic of your choosing based on one of the themes we have explored as a class this year. You will be doing research in the library, taking notes, developing a thesis, writing your paper and documenting your sources, all with guidance and support in class. The first step is to come up with a topic that you are interested in. Your topic will start in the form of a question you are interested in answering.

Consider the following questions to help you. You may already have some ideas, in which case you need to see how you might frame your own topic. You might have an interest in a topic that we merely touched on in class, or haven’t studied much at all. For example, perhaps you like the idea of looking at power (section I) and want to find out more about Pericles. Your question might be, “How did Pericles create such an organized and powerful city-state?” If you are interested in how cultures interact with each other through trade or conquest, you might look at section (III). Perhaps you want to find the answer to the question, “How did the Silk Road shape China’s population and as a result its government?” Each of these questions are BIG, and you will need to spend time narrowing and focusing as you conduct your research.

These questions are meant to help you figure out what to research. Your thesis will come later, but its important to know at this point that you are not merely writing a report: the goal of this paper is to defend and argument using evidence. Your thesis may eventually be the answer to your question (“Pericles was able to create such an organized and powerful city state through a combination of luck, hard work, and a big green monkey named Barnabus”) but it may be that in the process of your research your question changes somewhat and your thesis answers only a part.

**Research Questions**

**I. Theme: Power**

**Question:** What are effective strategies used by leaders or institutions to gain and maintain power?

**Possible Topics**: Leaders and Institutions

|  |
| --- |
| Qin Dynasty Muhammad  Han Dynasty Christian Church/Papacy  Empress Wu Abbasid/Umayyad Dynasty  Roman Empire Byzantine Empire  Alexander the Great Feudalism  Julius Ceasar Elizabeth I  Pericles Charlemagne  Mansa Musa Genghis Khan  Constantine |

**II. Theme: Belief**

**Question:** How do philosophies and religions shape society?

**Possible Topics:** Pick any philosophy or religion and explore its impact on an aspect of society below.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Religions/Philosophies | Aspect of Society |
| Christianity  Judaism  Islam  Confucianism  Hinduism  Buddhism  Renaissance  Humanism | Art and architecture  Social roles  Economics  Government  Gender roles  Education  Science and technology  Music and theater  Military/conquest  Literature |

**III. Theme: Exchange and Cultural Diffusion**

**Question**: How does exchange—of goods, ideas or people—impact society?

**Possible Topics**: Pick any example of exchange and explore how it influenced an aspect of society.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Examples of Exchange | Aspects of Society |
| China’s Silk Road  Africa’s Trans-Saharan Trade  East Africa Trade/Swahili Coast  Mongolian Conquests  European Slave Trade  European Commercial Revolution and Trade  European Crusades  European Exploration, Conquest, Colonization | Art and architecture  Literature  Social Roles  Economics  Government  Gender Roles  Education  Science and technology  Music and theater  Military/conquest  Religion/philosophy  Population |

**BRAINSTORMING POTENTIAL TOPICS**

The first step in the research process is to brainstorm, and then identify your research topic. You are required to identify **TWO** potential paper topics by **April 23rd**. Be sure to pick topics that are able to sustain your interest for the next 5 weeks, and that are suitable for academic research. I suggest that you use a topic that you have some background information on, or that you feel a connection to.

After you have identified two topics, please print, read, and mark up two articles from *World History in Context*, an online database available through the BHS library website. Please complete the chart below by **April 23rd**.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **POTENTIAL PAPER TOPIC #1** | **POTENTIAL PAPER TOPIC #2** |
| TOPIC:­­­­­­­ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  Explain why you are considering this topic. Why does it appeal to you? Do you feel strongly about it already, or are you using this opportunity to learn something new?  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  Address the availability and quality of information on your topic. **Use the space below to reflect on and give an overview of what type of information you found on *World History in Context***.  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  Given the results of your findings on *World History in Context*, do you think you can tackle this topic? Is it “doable?” Will it hold your interest? Please explain clearly.  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ | TOPIC:­­­­­­­ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  Explain why you are considering this topic. 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